

REMARKS

I. Summary Of Office Action

Claims 1-58 are pending in the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-42 and 55-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington et al. U.S. patent No. 6,161,099 (hereinafter "Harrington"). Claims 43-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 43-54 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington.

II. Summary Of Applicants' Reply To Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 14 and 43 to more particularly define the invention. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

III. The Rejection of Claims 1-13

The Examiner rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 1

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 1, is directed to a method of submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of a bid command, generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command, receiving a command to confirm the submission, and submitting a bid and offer command in response to the confirmation command. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 1 defines "generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command." For example, "if a trader enters a bid price, ... the offer price may be automatically generated from the bid price and the pre-set spread amount" (page 16, lines 26-30). Harrington is directed to conducting an auction over electronic networks. A user is able to submit bids in an auction chosen by the user. The auctioneer is able to review bidding history and determine a winner for an auction. Harrington does not show or suggest generating an offer value of any kind. Therefore, Harrington does not show or suggest generating an offer value based on a submitted bid command, as defined by applicants' claim 1.

In addition, applicants' claim 1 defines "submitting a bid and offer command in response to the confirmation command from the trader." The Examiner contends that Harrington describes this feature, citing FIG. 13 as support. Applicants respectfully submit that the confirmation screen of FIG. 13 only allows the user to confirm the submission of a bid. Harrington states that "the bidder is presented with a confirmation screen, an example of which is shown in FIG. 13, to confirm the bid prior to submission. ... If confirmed, the bid will be electronically submitted to the auctioneer computer 10" (col. 10, lines 43-48). Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest submitting a bid and offer command in response to a confirmation command, as defined by applicants' claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 2-13

As demonstrated above, claim 1 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 2-13 should also be

found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 1, from which dependent claims 2-13 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 2-13 should be withdrawn.

#### IV. The Rejection of Claims 14-25

The Examiner rejects claims 14-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

##### A. The Rejection of Claim 14

Applicants' invention, as defined by amended claim 14, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of a bid command via a first interface, generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command, presenting a second interface that contains information relating to a submission of a bid and offer command, requesting confirmation of the submission of the bid and offer command, and submitting the bid and offer command in response to the confirmation. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 14. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 14 defines "generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command." As discussed in Section III. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest this feature.

In addition, applicants' claim 14 defines "presenting a second interface that contains information relating to a submission of a bid and offer command." For example, "to facilitate two-sided trading, dialog window 300 [includes] a bid price entry field 324, ... an offer price entry field 326, ... a

bid size entry field 329, ... [and] an offer size entry field 331" (page 16, lines 16-22). Although Harrington does show presentation of a second screen (FIG. 13), that screen only contains information relating to a bid command. Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest presenting a second interface that contains information relating to a submission of a bid and offer command, as defined by applicants' claim 14.

Applicants' claim 14 also defines "requesting confirmation of the submission of the bid and offer command" and "submitting the bid and offer command in response to the confirmation." As described in Section III. A. above, Harrington describes requesting confirmation of a bid command, and submitting the bid command in response to the confirmation. However, Harrington neither shows nor suggests these two features of claim 14 as they relate to confirmation of a bid and offer command.

In view of the foregoing, claim 14 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 14 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

#### B. The Rejection of Claims 15-25

As demonstrated above, claim 14 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 15-25 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 14, from which dependent claims 15-25 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 15-25 should be withdrawn.

#### V. The Rejection of Claims 26-29

The Examiner rejects claims 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 26

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 26, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving data related to a tradable item data display, presenting an interactive data display based at least in part on the tradable item data display, receiving a selection of an item in the interactive data display that corresponds to a bid command, generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command, and submitting a bid and offer command. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 26. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 26 defines "generating an offer value based on the submitted bid command." As discussed in Section III. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest this feature.

Applicants' claim 26 also defines "submitting a bid and offer command." The Examiner contends that Harrington describes this feature, citing FIG. 13 as support. However, FIG. 13 and the corresponding description (e.g., col. 10, lines 43-48) only mention submission of a bid command, not a bid and offer command. In fact, nowhere does Harrington show or suggest submission of a bid and offer command, as defined in applicants' claim 26.

In view of the foregoing, claim 26 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 26 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 27-29

As demonstrated above, claim 26 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 27-29 should also be

found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 26, from which dependent claims 27-29 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 27-29 should be withdrawn.

VI. The Rejection of Claims 30-42

The Examiner rejects claims 30-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 30

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 30, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of an offer command, generating a bid value based on the submitted offer command, receiving a command to confirm the submission, and submitting a bid and offer command in response to the confirmation command. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 30. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 30 defines "receiving a submission of an offer command from a trader." Nowhere does Harrington show or suggest this feature. In fact, the concept of a trader submitting an offer command is inconsistent with the nature of an auction system, such as the one described by Harrington. Users of the auction system compete with each other to purchase an item (e.g., a government bond) by submitting bids to the system. At the end of the auction, a winner is determined by identifying the highest submitted bid. At no point during this process is a trader allowed to submit an offer command. Therefore, Harrington neither shows nor suggests this feature of applicants' claim 30.

Because Harrington does not show or suggest the submission of an offer command, Harrington cannot show or suggest "generating a bid value based on the submitted offer command." Likewise, Harrington also cannot show or suggest "receiving a confirmation command from the trader to confirm the submission." Thus, Harrington does not show or suggest either of these two features, as defined in applicants' claim 30.

Applicants' claim 30 also defines "submitting a bid and offer command in response to the confirmation command from the trader." As discussed in Section III. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest this feature.

In view of the foregoing, claim 30 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 30 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 31-42

As demonstrated above, claim 30 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 31-42 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 30, from which dependent claims 31-42 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 31-42 should be withdrawn.

VII. The Rejections of Claims 43-54

The Examiner rejects claims 43-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 43-54 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrington. Applicants have amended claim 43 to more particularly define the invention. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejections of Claim 43

Applicants' invention, as defined by amended claim 43, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving a submission of an offer command via a first interface, generating a bid value based on the offer command, presenting a second interface that contains information relating to a submission of a bid and offer command, requesting confirmation of the submission of the bid and offer command, receiving the confirmation, and submitting the bid and offer command in response to the confirmation.

The Examiner contends that claim 43 is indefinite because the feature "requesting confirmation of the submission of the bid and offer command" lacks proper antecedent basis. Applicants submit that claim 43, as amended, provides sufficient antecedent basis for this feature.

The Examiner also contends that Harrington shows all the features of applicants' claim 43 except for requesting a confirmation of the submission of an offer command. The Examiner states that, since Harrington teaches requesting confirmation of a bid submission, "it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to provide offer submitters with a confirmation to allow a submitter to verify the items for auction for which buyers are bidding." Applicants respectfully disagree.

As discussed in Section VI. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest the submission of offer commands by traders. An offer, as defined by the Chicago Board of Trade (<http://www.cbot.com>) is "an expression of one's desire to sell a commodity at a given price; opposite of bid." Users of the auction system are only allowed to place bids to buy the item being auctioned. Therefore, requesting confirmation of the submission of an offer command is not consistent with the



specification of Harrington and would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Even assuming for the sake of argument that requesting a confirmation of the submission of an offer command were obvious, Harrington still does not show or suggest any of the other features defined in claim 43. As discussed in Section VI. A. above, and reinforced by the preceding discussion in this section, Harrington does not show or suggest "receiving a submission of an offer command," and hence cannot "generat[e] a bid value based on the offer command." In addition, as discussed in IV. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest "presenting a second interface that relates to a submission of a bid and offer command."

Finally, as discussed in III. A. above, Harrington also does not show or suggest either "requesting a confirmation of the submission of the bid and offer command" or "submitting the bid and offer command in response to the confirmation." By extension, Harrington cannot show or suggest "receiving the confirmation [of the submission of the bid and offer command]."

In view of the foregoing, claim 43 should be found allowable for definiteness. Claim 43 should also be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejections of claim 43 should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 44-54

As demonstrated above, claim 43 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 44-54 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 43, from which dependent claims 44-54 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejections of dependent claims 44-54 should be withdrawn.

VIII. The Rejection of claims 55-58

The Examiner rejects claims 55-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrington. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. The Rejection of Claim 55

Applicants' invention, as defined by claim 55, is directed to a method for submitting a two-sided market trading command in an electronic trading system. The method comprises: receiving data related to a tradable item data display, presenting an interactive data display based at least in part on the tradable item data display, receiving a selection of an item in the interactive data display that corresponds to an offer command, generating a bid value based on the submitted offer command, and submitting a bid and offer command. The Examiner contends that Harrington shows all the features defined in applicants' claim 55. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' claim 55 defines "receiving a selection of an item in the interactive data display that corresponds to an offer command." The Examiner contends that this feature is shown in Harrington, citing FIGS. 3a, 5, 6, 12, and 13 as support. Applicants respectfully submit that this feature is not shown or suggested in any of the cited figures, nor is it shown or suggested elsewhere in Harrington. FIG. 3a shows the operation of the auction system, including user actions such as "bid prep/submission." In contrast, the submission of an offer is not shown or suggested in any of the steps. FIGS. 5, 6, 12, and 13 show illustrative screen shots that are presented to the user. None of these screen shots show or suggest the submission of an offer, and in particular, do not show or suggest "an item ... that corresponds to an offer command" as required by applicants' claim 55. For instance, FIG. 12 is an error screen,

whose only selectable items are buttons labeled "back" and "restore."

Furthermore, as discussed in Sections VI. A. and VII. A. above, Harrington does not show or suggest submission of an offer command in any form at all. As a result, Harrington cannot show or suggest "generating a bid value based on the submitted offer command."

Applicants' claim 55 also defines "submitting a bid and offer command." As discussed in Section V. A., Harrington only describes the submission of a bid command, not a bid and offer command.

In view of the foregoing, claim 55 should be found allowable over Harrington. Therefore, the rejection of claim 55 over Harrington should be withdrawn.

B. The Rejection of Claims 56-58

As demonstrated above, claim 55 should be found allowable. Therefore, dependent claims 56-58 should also be found allowable for at least the same reasons as to why independent claim 55, from which dependent claims 56-58 depend, is allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of dependent claims 56-58 should be withdrawn.

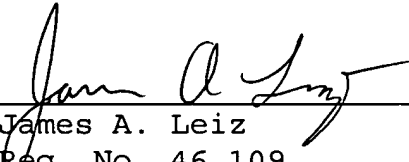
IX. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-58 are in condition for allowance. This application is therefore in condition for

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allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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James A. Leiz  
Reg. No. 46,109  
Agent for Applicants  
FISH & NEAVE  
Customer No. 1473  
1251 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10020-1104  
Tel. (212) 596-9000